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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0533

HENRY A. WAXMAN
33RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

June 6, 2013

General Thomas P. Bostick
Commanding General
Headquarters, US Army Corp of Engineers
441 G Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

Dear General Bostick:

I write to urge the Army Corps of Engineers to initiate regular dredging at Marina del Rey, which is the largest man-made marina in the United States.

Marina del Rey is an anchor for tourism, recreation, and public safety in Los Angeles. It is home to more than 5,000 boats, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Although the marina should be dredged every three to five years, it has experienced waits two and three times longer than that. Before its most recent dredging in 2012, the marina had not been dredged in eleven years. As a result, more than 800,000 cubic yards of sediment accumulated and congested up to 55% of some marina channels. Boats frequently ran aground; and if there had been a major incident along the coast, the clogged waterways could have created havoc for our first responders.

I understand that the Army Corps of Engineers provides funding and a dredging schedule for marinas that require annual dredging, but it does not do so for marinas like Marina del Rey that require dredging on a regular but less frequent basis. This policy is damaging to public safety and the economy in Southern California, and I urge the Army Corps to initiate regular dredging of the marina.

I appreciate your attention to my concern and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


HENRY A. WAXMAN
Member of Congress